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Attorney Docket No. ATI-328

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Laura B. Rosenberg Art Unit: 3616

Re: Application of: David S. Breed

 Serial No.: 10/817,379

 Filed: April 2, 2004

 For: Knee Bolster Airbag Systems

 Confirmation No.: 2566

 Customer Number: 22846

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 17, 2004

Sir:

Applicant herewith submits a list of references cited in a Notice of Rejection issued in a counterpart application, Japanese Patent Application No. 07-148217 (which corresponds to U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 08/247,763, from which priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 is claimed in this application). A copy of each of the references is submitted herewith.

An English-language Abstract of Japanese Patent Publication No. 01-311930 is provided and Japanese Patent Publication No. 47-28641 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 3,792,873.

I hereby certify that this correspondence and/or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" on December 17, 2004.

Brian Roffe

As for a concise explanation of the relevance of the references without either an English-language Abstract of English-language equivalent patent publication:

Japanese Patent Publication No. JP-A S48-73935 describes an airbag device, wherein an airbag includes an outer airbag and an inner airbag (See, Fig. 1).

Japanese Utility Model Application No. JU-A S54-51749 describes an airbag device, wherein an airbag includes an outer airbag and an inner airbag (See, Fig. 1).

Japanese Utility Model Application No. JU-A S48-81542 describes an airbag device, wherein an airbag includes an outer airbag and an inner airbag (See, Fig. 1).

Japanese Patent Publication No. JP-A S48-67928 describes an airbag device, wherein an airbag includes an outer airbag and an inner airbag (See, Figs. 1 and 2).

Japanese Patent Publication No. JP-A S50-6032 describes an airbag device, wherein a net is attached to an airbag.

Japanese Patent Publication No. JU-B S51-47310 describes an airbag device, wherein a plurality of airbag sections are connected together (See, Figs. 1, 2, 3).

Japanese Patent Publication No. JP-A S54-53431 describes an airbag device, wherein a plurality of airbag sections are connected together (See, Figs. 1-4).

Japanese Utility Model Application No. JU-A H02-56083 describes a knee bolster airbag mounted in the dashboard (See, Figs. 1-5).

Japanese Utility Model Application No. JU-A S62-154056 describes a knee bolster airbag mounted in the dashboard (See, Figs. 1-5).

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better prior art exists. While the term “reference” is used in citing each of the publications called to the

Examiner's attention herein, applicant does not make any admission that each or all of them are "prior art" references within the meaning of the statutory and case law.

Applicant reserves the right to contend, where appropriate, that a reference asserted against any claim of the present application is not prior art under the facts and the law.

Applicant also reserves the right to present appropriate arguments and/or evidence to establish patentability over the references, should one or more of the references be applied against the claims of the present application.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner independently determine those items that the Examiner would consider the most pertinent of all the references cited herein.

An Office Action on the merits has not been received to date. Therefore, no fee is due for the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement.

It is respectfully requested that these references be considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Brian Roffe
Attorney for Applicants
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Enclosures
PTO-1449 (2 pages)
12 references

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	2
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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/817,379
Filing Date	April 2, 2004
First Named Inventor	David S. Breed
Art Unit	3616
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	ATI-328

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ *Number ⁴ *Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		JP-A H01-311930	12-15-1989	Nippon Plast Co		
		JP-A S48-73935	10-05-1973	unknown		
		JU-A S54-51749	04-10-1979	unknown		
		JU-A S48-81542	10-05-1973	unknown		
		JP-A S48-67928	09-17-1973	unknown		
		JP-A S50-6032	01-22-1975	unknown		

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ² Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ³ See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ⁴ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁷ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JU-B S51-47310	11-15-1976	unknown		
		JP-A S54-53431	04-26-1979	unknown		
		JP-A S47-28641	11-02-1972	Buchner et al.		
		JU-A H02-56083	04-23-1990	unknown		
		JU-A S62-61756	04-16-1987	unknown		

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